

Travel Report

John Keshick

Grand Rapids Informational Meeting for Tribal Citizens

May 09, 2012

1-4 pm.

The meeting was centered on a presentation of the 2012 Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Revenue Allocation Plan and Liability Fact Sheet presented by legislative Leader Mel Kiogima Sr.

The meeting was attended by a light but vocal and concerned crowd of Tribal Citizens.

The concerns I heard expressed were:

- Senior citizens concerned about having enough funds for retirement.
- High Medical Bills
- Tax's on retirement funds.
- Some kind of Elder per Cap increase.
- Improved Dental services for seniors that are beyond what I.H.S. provides.
- Employment-jobs are scarce in the Grand Rapids and surrounding areas.
- Access to Health care.
- Information Pamphlet on Services and Programs In and Out of Service areas.
- Same for Education.
- Possible name changing statute for tribal members to revert to traditional names.

I found the meeting beneficial. It gave Tribal Citizens in the Grand Rapids area a medium to voice their opinions and concerns.

I would like to expand these meeting to other areas with a concentration of Tribal Citizens.

Respectfully submitted Tribal Councilor John Keshick